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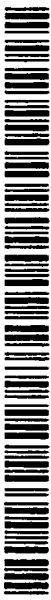
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(54) Title: COSMETIC COMPOSITIONS CONTAINING CHICK PEA EXTRACT AND RETINOIDS

(57) Abstract: The present invention discloses cosmetic skin care compositions containing chick pea extract in combination with retinoids. Methods of conditioning skin by the application of such compositions to the skin are also disclosed.



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COSMETIC COMPOSITIONS CONTAINING  
CHICK PEA EXTRACT AND RETINOIDS

5

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to cosmetic compositions containing chick pea extract in combination with retinoids and to methods of conditioning skin by the application of  
10 such compositions to the skin.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Retinol (vitamin A) is an endogenous compound which occurs  
15 naturally in the human body and is essential for normal epithelial cell differentiation. Natural and synthetic vitamin A derivatives have been used extensively in the treatment of a variety of skin disorders and as skin repair and renewal agents. Retinoic acid has been used to treat a  
20 variety of skin conditions such as acne, wrinkles, psoriasis, age spots and skin discoloration.

Within the cells, retinol and retinoic acid are bound to  
25 specific cellular binding proteins, two of the major proteins are CRABP-1 and -2 (Roos *et al.*, Pharmacological reviews: 50, 315-333, 1998). These proteins act in regulating the intracellular concentration of retinoids by acting as both storage or shuttle proteins in retinoid  
30 metabolism. The levels of this protein are regulated by the amount of retinoic acid within the cells. Higher cellular

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levels of retinoids increase the expression of CRABP-2. Therefore, the amount of this protein in the cells, is a measure of the retinoid activity of the cells. Skin cells contain CRABP-2 both in the epidermis and the dermis. 5 CRABP-2 response to retinoid administration in fibroblasts *in vitro* is used as a reproducible measure of retinoid bioactivity that predict human skin responses (Elder et al., J. Invest. Dermatol., 106: 517-521, 1996). Therefore, CRABP-2 expression of fibroblasts is a measure of retinoid activity leading to various cosmetic skin benefits (antiaging, anti wrinkling, skin conditioning etc.). 10

Chick pea or Spanish pea (*Cicer arietinum*), a common dietary lentil, contains flavonoids including daidzein, 15 formononetin, biochanin A, pratensein, homoferreirin, medicarpin, maackiain, methyl coumestrol, medicagol, formononetin glucoside and biochanin A glucoside (Ingham et al., In: Progress in the chemistry of Organic natural products, vol 43: Ed-W. Herz et al., Springer-Verlag, Wien, 20 New York, 1983). Flavonoids derived from chick pea have been reported to have lipid lowering effects in the blood and liver of rats. Several nutritional studies report on protein derived from chick pea for use as nutritional supplements and ways to improve the protein quality of chick 25 pea. Vasiliou, US patent 4,761,285 discloses the use of chick peas as a dietary supplement or for internal or topical treatment of haemorrhoids. In India, a cosmetic mask or skin treatment made from chick pea powder mixed with water is a common beauty treatment.

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The present invention is based in part on the discovery that the organic solvent chick pea extract in combination with retinoids enhances CRABP-2 expression in fibroblasts.

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#### SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a cosmetic skin care composition comprising:

- 10 (i) an organic solvent extract of chick pea in an amount of from 0.00001 to 10 wt. %;
- (ii) a retinoid in an amount of from 0.001 to 10 wt.%; and
- (iii) a cosmetically acceptable vehicle.

15 The present invention also includes a method of improving or preventing the condition of wrinkled, lined, dry, flaky, aged or photodamaged skin and improving skin thickness, elasticity, flexibility, radiance, glow and plumpness, which method includes applying the inventive

20 composition to the skin. Compositions of the invention are intended for topical application to mammalian skin which is already dry, flaky, lined, wrinkled, aged, photodamaged, or may be applied prophylactically to reduce the deteriorative changes.

25

#### DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Except in the examples, or where otherwise explicitly indicated, all numbers in this description indicating amounts

30 of material or conditions of reaction, physical properties of materials and/or use are to be understood as modified by the

word "about." All amounts are by weight of the composition, unless otherwise specified.

Chick peas are suitable for use in the inventive  
5 compositions in the form of an organic extract. The chick  
pea extract is prepared for use in the present invention  
from dried chick peas. Dried chick peas may be obtained  
from Arrowhead Mills, from health food stores or  
supermarkets.

10

The organic chick pea extracts are prepared by extracting the  
dried chick peas with a solvent by stirring 1 part of dried  
chick peas with 2 to 5 parts of the solvent for from 4 to 24  
hours at room temperature. Suitable solvents are described  
15 below. The extracts are clarified by filtration and/or  
centrifugation, then dried by evaporation (optionally, under  
vacuum) to obtain the organic chick pea extract.

Solvents suitable for the preparation of chick pea extract  
20 for use in the present invention include, but are not limited  
to: ethanol, methanol, hexane, chloroform, dichloromethane  
and ethyl acetate. Preferred solvents are dichloromethane,  
methanol, or ethanol in order to optimize activity. The  
extract may be further concentrated, fractioned, re-extracted  
25 or purified, e.g. by organic solvent extraction or by  
chromatography.

In general, the amount of the chick pea extract in the  
inventive compositions is in the range of from 0.00001% to  
30 10% by weight composition. Preferably in order to lower  
cost and maximize the effect, the amount of chick pea

extract is in the range of from 0.01 to 10% and most preferably is in the range of from 0.1% to 5% by wt. of the composition.

- 5 The inventive compositions further comprise a retinoid selected from retinol or retinyl ester. The term "retinol" includes the following isomers of retinol: all-trans-retinol, 13-cis-retinol, 11-cis-retinol, 9-cis-retinol, 3,4-didehydro-retinol. Preferred isomers are all-trans-retinol, 10 13-cis-retinol, 3,4-didehydro-retinol, 9-cis-retinol. Most preferred is all-trans-retinol, due to its wide commercial availability.

Retinyl ester is an ester of retinol. The term "retinol" has 15 been defined above. Retinyl esters suitable for use in the present invention are C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>30</sub> esters of retinol, preferably C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> esters, and most preferably C<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>3</sub>, and C<sub>16</sub> esters because they are more commonly available. Examples of retinyl esters include but are not limited to: 20 palmitate, retinyl formate, retinyl acetate, retinyl propionate, retinyl butyrate, retinyl valerate, retinyl isovalerate, retinyl hexanoate, retinyl heptanoate, retinyl octanoate, retinyl nonanoate, retinyl decanoate, retinyl undecanoate, retinyl laurate, retinyl tridecanoate, retinyl 25 myristate, retinyl pentadecanoate, retinyl heptadecanoate, retinyl stearate, retinyl isostearate, retinyl nonadecanoate, retinyl arachidonate, retinyl behenate, retinyl linoleate, retinyl oleate.

- 30 The preferred ester for use in the present invention is selected from retinyl palmitate, retinyl acetate and retinyl

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propionate, because these are the most commercially available and therefore the cheapest. Retinyl linoleate is also preferred due to its efficacy.

5 Retinol or retinyl ester is employed in the inventive composition in an amount of from about 0.001% to about 10%, preferably in an amount of from about 0.01% to about 1%, most preferably in an amount of from about 0.01% to about 0.5% by wt. of the composition.

10

The composition also comprises a cosmetically acceptable vehicle to act as a diluant, dispersant or carrier for the chick pea extract and the retinoid in the composition, so as to facilitate their distribution when the composition is  
15 applied to the skin.

Vehicles other than, or in addition to, water can include liquid or solid emollients, solvents, humectants, thickeners and powders. An especially preferred nonaqueous carrier is  
20 a polydimethyl siloxane and/or a polydimethyl phenyl siloxane. Silicones of this invention may be those with viscosities ranging anywhere from about 10 to 10,000,000mm<sup>2</sup>/s (centistokes) at 25°C. Especially desirable are mixtures of low and high viscosity silicones.  
25 These silicones are available from the General Electric Company under trademarks Vicasil, SE and SF and from the Dow Corning Company under the 200 and 550 Series. Amounts of silicone which can be utilized in the compositions of this invention range anywhere from 5% to 95%, preferably from 25%  
30 to 90% by weight of the composition.

The cosmetically acceptable vehicle will usually comprise from 5% to 99.9%, preferably from 25% to 80% by weight of the composition, and can, in the absence of other cosmetic adjuncts, form the balance of the composition. Preferably, the vehicle is at least 80 wt.% water, by weight of the vehicle. Preferably, water comprises at least 50 wt.% of the inventive composition, most preferably from 60 to 80 wt.%, by weight of the composition.

10      Optional Skin Benefit Materials and Cosmetic Adjuncts

An oil or oily material may be present, together with an emulsifier to provide either a water-in-oil emulsion or an oil-in-water emulsion, depending largely on the average hydrophilic-lipophilic balance (HLB) of the emulsifier employed.

The compositions of the present invention preferably include sunscreens. Sunscreens include those materials commonly employed to block ultraviolet light. Illustrative compounds are the derivatives of PABA, cinnamate and salicylate. For example, octyl methoxycinnamate and 2-hydroxy-4-methoxy benzophenone (also known as oxybenzone) can be used. Octyl methoxycinnamate and 2-hydroxy-4-methoxy benzophenone are commercially available under the trademarks, Parsol MCX and Benzophenone-3, respectively. The exact amount of sunscreen employed in the emulsions may vary depending upon the degree of protection desired from the sun's UV radiation.

30      Emollients may also be incorporated into cosmetic compositions of the present invention. Levels of such



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emollients may range from 0.5% to 50%, preferably between 5% and 30% by weight of the total composition. Emollients may be classified under such general chemical categories as esters, fatty acids and alcohols, polyols and hydrocarbons.

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Esters may be mono- or di-esters. Acceptable examples of fatty di-esters include dibutyl adipate, diethyl sebacate, diisopropyl dimerate, and dioctyl succinate. Acceptable branched chain fatty esters include 2-ethyl-hexyl myristate, isopropyl stearate and isostearyl palmitate. Acceptable tribasic acid esters include triisopropyl trilinoleate and trilauryl citrate. Acceptable straight chain fatty esters include lauryl palmitate, myristyl lactate, and stearyl oleate. Preferred esters include coco-caprylate/caprato (a blend of coco-caprylate and coco-caprate), propylene glycol myristyl ether acetate, diisopropyl adipate and cetyl octanoate.

Suitable fatty alcohols and acids include those compounds having from 10 to 20 carbon atoms. Especially preferred are compounds such as cetyl, myristyl, palmitic and stearyl alcohols and acids.

Among the polyols which may serve as emollients are linear and branched chain alkyl polyhydroxyl compounds. For example, propylene glycol, sorbitol and glycerin are preferred. Also useful may be polymeric polyols such as poly-propylene glycol and polyethylene glycol. Butylene and propylene glycol are also especially preferred as penetration enhancers.

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Exemplary hydrocarbons which may serve as emollients are those having hydrocarbon chains ranging anywhere from 12 to 30 carbon atoms. Specific examples include mineral oil, petroleum jelly, squalene and isoparaffins.

5

Another category of functional ingredients within the cosmetic compositions of the present invention are thickeners. A thickener will usually be present in amounts anywhere from 0.1 to 20% by weight, preferably from about  
10 0.5% to 10% by weight of the composition. Exemplary thickeners are cross-linked polyacrylate materials available under the trademark Carbopol from the B.F. Goodrich Company. Gums may be employed such as xanthan, carrageenan, gelatin, karaya, pectin and locust beans gum. Under certain  
15 circumstances the thickening function may be accomplished by a material also serving as a silicone or emollient. For instance, silicone gums in excess of 10 centistokes and esters such as glycerol stearate have dual functionality.

20 Powders may be incorporated into the cosmetic compositions of the present invention. These powders include chalk, talc, kaolin, starch, smectite clays, chemically modified magnesium aluminum silicate, organically modified montmorillonite clay, hydrated aluminum silicate, fumed  
25 silica, aluminum starch octenyl succinate and mixtures thereof.

Other adjunct minor components may also be incorporated into the cosmetic compositions. These ingredients may include  
30 coloring agents, opacifiers and perfumes. Amounts of these

- 10 -

other adjunct minor components may range anywhere from 0.001% up to 20% by weight of the composition.

#### Use of the Composition

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The composition according to the invention is intended primarily as a product for topical cosmetic application to human skin, especially as an agent for conditioning, moisturizing and smoothening the skin, and preventing or  
10 reducing the appearance of lined, wrinkled or aged skin.

In use, a small quantity of the composition, for example from 1 to 100ml, is applied to exposed areas of the skin, from a suitable container or applicator and, if necessary,  
15 it is then spread over and/or rubbed into the skin using the hand or fingers or a suitable device.

#### Product Form and Packaging

20 The topical skin treatment compositions of the present invention may be formulated as a lotion, a cream or a gel. The composition may be packaged in a suitable container to suit its viscosity and intended use by the consumer. For example, a lotion or cream may be packaged in a bottle or a  
25 roll-ball applicator, or a propellant-driven aerosol device or a container fitted with a pump suitable for finger operation. When the composition is a cream, it may simply be stored in a non-deformable bottle or squeeze container, such as a tube or a lidded jar. The composition may also be  
30 included in capsules such as those described in U.S. Patent 5,063,507, incorporated herein by reference. The invention

accordingly also provides a closed container containing a cosmetically acceptable composition as herein defined.

5 The following specific examples further illustrate the invention, but the invention is not limited thereto. In all examples, chick pea was obtained from local supermarkets. Retinoids were obtained from Sigma. The student t-test was used to calculate all p-values.

10

#### EXAMPLES

The following methods were employed:

15

#### Methods:

##### 1. Preparation of chick pea extracts:

20 Dried chick peas were purchased from local supermarkets and powdered in a dry grinder. An alcoholic extract of the chick peas was prepared by stirring 1 gram of the dry chick pea powder in 10 ml of ethanol for 4 to 24 hrs at room temperature. The extract was clarified by filtration and  
25 centrifugation, to obtain a 10% extract of chick pea in ethanol.

##### 2. Cell culture method:

30 Human adult fibroblasts obtained from sun-protected inner arm of 25-30 old year female volunteers were used. Cells were grown in 1:1 DMEM/Hams F12 media containing 10% FBS, maintained at 37°C in a 5% CO<sub>2</sub> atmosphere under normal atmospheric oxygen tension. Third passage adult fibroblasts

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were grown in DMEM media with 10% FBS in 12-well plates at a seeding density of 40,000 cells/ml/well. The cells at 80% confluence were rinsed in serum free and phenol red free (PRF) DMEM media twice. Pre-treatment with chick pea extract for 4 hours was conducted and then dosed with retinoids and was incubated for 48 hours. After incubation, the wells were washed twice with 1X PBS and the cell monolayer was harvested in 100µl cell lysis buffer (contains 1X PBS, 1% TritonX, 0.5% sodium deoxycholate, 0.1% SDS containing protease inhibitor (10mg/ml PMSF in isopropanol, 10µl/ml)). The suspension was spun at 14000rpm for 10 minutes, the supernatant collected and an aliquot of the supernatant used for protein quantification. The protein concentration was determined using a Pierce protein kit. The remainder of the 100µl supernatant (cell lysate) was denatured in a mixture of 40µl sample buffer (NOVEX) and 0.5% Beta mercaptoethanol (BME) by boiling the sample for 5 minutes. Equal amounts of protein was then loaded onto 16% Tris-glycine gels for protein analysis by SDS page and Western Immuno-blotting for CRABP-2 protein expression.

### 3. Detection of Cellular Retinoic Acid Binding Protein 2 (CRABP-2) in fibroblasts:

In order to measure the levels of CRABP-2 in the fibroblasts prepared as described above, the cell supernatant was re-suspended in 4X sample buffer and 0.5% BME, boiled for 5 minutes and used for western blotting. Equal amounts of protein were loaded onto 16% Tris-glycine gels for CRABP-2 protein analysis by SDS page and Western Immuno-blotting. The gels were transferred to nitrocellulose blots and Western Blotting was carried out using monoclonal antibodies

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to CRABP-2 according to standard procedures. The CRABP-2 protein band was visualized in the Western Blots using the chemiluminescence system obtained from Santa Cruz Biotechnology (SantaCruz, CA). The bands in the film were  
 5 quantitated by densitometric scanning, the data from triplicate samples were calculated as % of control and expressed in the following tables as % increase over control (with control as 100%) +/-SD of triplicates.

## 10 EXAMPLES 1-4

The examples investigated the effect on CRABP-2 expression of fibroblasts of combinations of various concentrations of chick pea extract and retinoids.

15

## 20 EXAMPLE 1: 100 nM retinoids and 0.1µl of a 10% chick pea extract

| Groups              | CRABP-2 levels  | As % of control | p value vs. control | p value vs. retinoid | p value vs. Chick pea | Synergy |
|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|---------|
| Control             | 0.7+/-<br>0.2   | 100+/-<br>29    | 1                   |                      |                       |         |
| Retinol             | 2.02+/-<br>0.23 | 289+/-<br>34    | 0.00000<br>56       | 1                    |                       |         |
| Retinyl Palmitate   | 1.84+/-<br>0.16 | 262+/-<br>24    | 0.00053             | 1                    |                       |         |
| Retinyl linoleate   | 2.06+/-<br>0.09 | 294+/-<br>12    | 0.00000<br>14       | 1                    |                       |         |
| Retinyl acetate     | 1.44+/-<br>0.26 | 206+/-<br>37    | 0.0022              | 1                    |                       |         |
| Chick pea ext.      | 1.71+/-<br>0.09 | 245+/-<br>13    | 0.00010             |                      |                       |         |
| Chick pea + retinol | 3.38+/-<br>0.22 | 482+/-<br>32    | 4.4E-07             | 0.00208              | 0.0000<br>31          | Yes     |

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|                                     |                  |               |               |       |       |     |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-------|-------|-----|
| Chick pea<br>+<br>ret.palmit<br>ate | 1.85+/-<br>0.036 | 264+/-<br>52  | 0.00011<br>3  | 0.975 | 0.564 | No  |
| Chick pea<br>+<br>ret.<br>Linoleate | 1.89+/-<br>0.19  | 270+/-<br>28  | 0.00007<br>5  | 0.256 | 0.23  | No  |
| Chick pea<br>+<br>ret.<br>acetate   | 3.72+/-<br>1.06  | 532+/-<br>151 | 0.00001<br>77 | 0.022 | 0.030 | Yes |

EXAMPLE 2: 100 nM retinoids and 1.0  $\mu$ l of a 10% chick pea extract

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| Groups                              | CRABP-2<br>levels | As % of<br>control | p value<br>vs.<br>control | p value<br>vs.<br>retinoid | p value<br>vs.<br>Chick<br>pea | Synergy |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|---------|
| Control                             | 0.7+/-<br>0.2     | 100+/-<br>29       | 1                         |                            |                                |         |
| Retinol                             | 2.02+/-<br>0.23   | 289+/-<br>34       | 0.00000<br>56             | 1                          |                                |         |
| Retinyl<br>Palmitate                | 1.84+/-<br>0.16   | 262+/-<br>24       | 0.00053                   | 1                          |                                |         |
| Retinyl<br>linoleate                | 2.06+/-<br>0.09   | 294+/-<br>12       | 0.00000<br>14             | 1                          |                                |         |
| Retinyl<br>acetate                  | 1.44+/-<br>0.26   | 206+/-<br>37       | 0.0022                    | 1                          |                                |         |
| Chick pea<br>ext.                   | 1.46+/-<br>0.37   | 209+/-<br>54       | 0.0049                    |                            |                                |         |
| Chick pea<br>+ retinol              | 5.52+/-<br>0.02   | 789+/-<br>3.0      | 7.3E-08                   | 0.000293                   | 7.3E-04                        | Yes     |
| Chick pea<br>+<br>ret.palmit<br>ate | 3.24+/-<br>0.42   | 462+/-<br>60       | 0.00000<br>19             | 0.049                      | 0.016                          | Yes     |
| Chick pea<br>+<br>ret.<br>Linoleate | 3.69+/-<br>1.5    | 527+/-<br>223      | 0.00167                   | 0.147                      | 0.075                          | No      |
| Chick pea<br>+<br>ret.<br>acetate   | 3.48+/-<br>0.21   | 498+/-<br>30       | 2.88E-<br>07              | 0.00047                    | 0.0012                         | Yes     |

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EXAMPLE 3: 500 nM retinoids and 0.1  $\mu$ l of a 10% chick pea extract

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| Groups                     | CRABP-2 levels  | As % of control | p value vs. control | p value vs. retinoid | p value vs. Chick pea | Synergy |
|----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|---------|
| Control                    | 0.7+/-<br>0.2   | 100+/-<br>29    | 1                   |                      |                       |         |
| Retinol                    | 0.72+/-<br>0.04 | 102+/-6         | 0.877               | 1                    |                       |         |
| Retinyl Palmitate          | 0.94+/-<br>0.31 | 135+/-<br>45    | 0.196               | 1                    |                       |         |
| Retinyl linoleate          | 0.81+/-<br>0.16 | 115+/-<br>23    | 0.455               | 1                    |                       |         |
| Retinyl acetate            | 1.65+/-<br>0.49 | 235+/-<br>70    | 0.0057              | 1                    |                       |         |
| Chick pea ext.             | 1.71+/-<br>0.09 | 245+/-<br>13    | 0.00010             |                      | 1                     |         |
| Chick pea + retinol        | 0.74+/-<br>0.22 | 106+/-<br>31    | 0.78                | 0.86                 | 0.002<br>1            | No      |
| Chick pea + ret. palmitate | 2.63+/-<br>0.58 | 376+/-<br>83    | 0.00001<br>24       | 0.0118               | 0.045                 | Yes     |
| Chick pea + ret. Linoleate | 3.83+/-<br>1.79 | 547+/-<br>256   | 0.00026             | 0.043                | 0.011                 | Yes     |
| Chick pea + ret. acetate   | 6.31+/-<br>1.63 | 901+/-<br>233   | 4.5E-05             | 0.033                | 0.008<br>2            | Yes     |

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EXAMPLE 4: 500 nM retinoids and 1.0  $\mu$ l of a 10% chick pea extract:

| Groups                     | CRABP-2 levels  | As % of control | p value vs. control | P value vs. retinoid | value s. chick ea | Synergy |
|----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|----------------------|-------------------|---------|
| Control                    | 0.7+/-<br>0.2   | 100+/-<br>29    | 1                   |                      |                   |         |
| Retinol                    | 0.72+/-<br>0.04 | 102+/-<br>6     | 0.877               | 1                    |                   |         |
| Retinyl Palmitate          | 0.94+/-<br>0.31 | 135+/-<br>45    | 0.196               | 1                    |                   |         |
| Retinyl linoleate          | 0.81+/-<br>0.16 | 115+/-<br>23    | 0.455               | 1                    |                   |         |
| Retinyl acetate            | 1.65+/-<br>0.49 | 235+/-<br>70    | 0.0057              | 1                    |                   |         |
| Chick pea ext.             | 1.71+/-<br>0.09 | 245+/-<br>13    | 0.00010             |                      | 1                 |         |
| Chick pea + retinol        | 3.19+/-<br>0.14 | 456+/-<br>20    | 3.53E-<br>07        | 9.45E-<br>06         | 0.0018            | Yes     |
| Chick pea + ret. palmitate | 2.78+/-<br>0.11 | 393+/-<br>15    | 1.02E-<br>06        | 0.00073<br>3         | 0.0047            | Yes     |
| Chick pea + ret. Linoleate | 3.43+/-<br>0.26 | 490+/-<br>37    | 5.7E-07             | 0.00013<br>2         | 0.0018            | Yes     |
| Chick pea + ret. acetate   | 3.74+/-<br>0.09 | 534+/-<br>13    | 6.27E-<br>08        | 0.0044               | 0.0005<br>4       | Yes     |

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The results summarized in Examples 1-4 demonstrate that retinoids at some concentrations synergize with chick pea extract at some concentrations. Optimum synergy was observed with all the retinoids at 500 nM level and 1  $\mu$ l of chick pea extract.

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It should be understood that the specific forms of the invention herein illustrated and described are intended to be representative only. Changes, including but not limited to those suggested in this specification, may be made in the 5 illustrated embodiments without departing from the clear teachings of the disclosure. Accordingly, reference should be made to the following appended claims in determining the full scope of the invention.

CLAIMS

1. A cosmetic skin care composition comprising:
- (i) an organic solvent extract of chick pea in an amount  
5 of from 0.00001 to 10 wt.%,
  - (ii) a retinoid selected from retinol and retinyl esters  
in an amount of from 0.001 to 10 wt.%; and
  - (iii) a cosmetically acceptable vehicle.
- 10 2. A cosmetic method of improving the appearance of wrinkled,  
lined, dry, flaky, aged or photodamaged skin and improving  
skin thickness, elasticity, flexibility and plumpness, the  
method comprising applying the composition of claim 1 to  
the skin.
- 15 3. A cosmetic method of increasing the level of cellular  
retinoic acid binding protein in the skin fibroblasts, the  
method comprising applying the composition of claim 1 to  
the skin.

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Intern. Patent Application No.

PCT/GB 00/04304

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
IPC 7 A61K7/48

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

WPI Data, PAJ, EPO-Internal, BIOSIS, CHEM ABS Data, MEDLINE, EMBASE, FSTA

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages            | Relevant to claim No. |
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents :

- \*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
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- \*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
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- \*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
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- \*Z\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

24 January 2001

Date of mailing of the international search report

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Internat'l Application No

Information on patent family members:

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